

# NEWS RELEASE

## **Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources**

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**DATE: May 1, 2019**

**CONTACT: Rori Paloski**

## **SUBJECT: Incidental take notice for Grant County**

MADISON -- The Stelpflug Quarry may result in the "incidental taking" of a rare frog under a permit the Department of Natural Resources proposes to issue for the project. Incidental take refers to the unintentional loss of individual endangered or threatened animals or plants that does not put the overall population of the species at risk.

The Stelpflug Quarry is an existing non-metallic mine that is proposed to re-open and has been used for mining material for fill and crushed stone. The active area of the Stelpflug Quarry is approximately 2.5 acres, with walls that reach as high as 120 feet from the floor to the wall edge. Work will involve blasting and processing the blasted material, including movement of blasted material via heavy machinery and crushing and sorting of blasted material. Stockpiles will be maintained of the processed material, entering and exiting vehicles will be accessing the stockpiles to take processed material off site. No washing of the material will occur on site.

The presence of the state endangered Blanchard's cricket frog (*Acris blanchardi*) has been confirmed in the vicinity of the project site. DNR staff determined that the proposed project may result in the incidental taking of some frogs.

The Department has concluded that the proposed project is not likely to appreciably reduce the likelihood of the survival or recovery of the species within the state, the whole plant-animal community of which it is a part or the habitat that is critical to its existence.

The conservation measures to minimize the adverse effect on the endangered species will be incorporated into the proposed Incidental Take Permit. Copies of the jeopardy assessment and background information on the Blanchard's cricket frog are available by searching the DNR website for [incidental take public notice](#) or upon request from Rori Paloski (608-264-6040 or [rori.paloski@wi.gov](mailto:rori.paloski@wi.gov)). The department is requesting comments from the public through May 15, 2019 regarding project-related impacts to the Blanchard's cricket frog. Public comments should be sent to Rori Paloski, WDNR, PO Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707-7921 or [rori.paloski@wi.gov](mailto:rori.paloski@wi.gov).